



**United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia**

**Channing D. Phillips
Acting United States Attorney**

PRESS RELEASE

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Former Accounting Clerk with YMCA of Metropolitan Washington Pleads Guilty in Scheme to Cash Forged YMCA Checks

WASHINGTON – Eric Sean Curry, Jr., 28, of Capitol Heights, Maryland, pleaded guilty on September 14, 2009, in connection with a scheme to cash forged checks that were stolen from the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington (“YMCA”), Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips announced today. The Honorable Richard J. Leon, of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, presided over the plea this afternoon and will sentence Curry on December 10, 2009.

Curry, a former accounting clerk with the YMCA, pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1344, 1349. He faces a maximum sentence of 30 years of incarceration. Under the voluntary federal sentencing guidelines, Curry’s sentencing guidelines range is 27 to 33 months of incarceration. As part of his plea agreement, Curry has agreed to pay \$142,742.86 in restitution to the YMCA.

According to the government’s evidence presented at the plea hearing, between October 2007 and January 2008, Curry used the YMCA’s signature stamp without authorization to forge the signature of a YMCA official on 33 stolen YMCA checks. He then distributed those checks to 14 individuals, who were friends and associates of Curry and were not entitled to money from the YMCA. Many of the check recipients agreed to return a portion of the proceeds of the checks – as much as half – to Curry. The forged YMCA checks were cashed at local branches of Wachovia Bank, an FDIC-insured institution, where the YMCA had an account.

In announcing the guilty plea, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended the outstanding investigative work of former Criminal Investigator Diane Eickman. He also praised the efforts of Legal Assistant Jamasee Lucas and Assistant U.S. Attorney David Johnson, who is prosecuting the case.

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